

Message Text

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EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A)

SUBJECT: PROGNOSIS FOR THE DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY IN
PENNSYLVANIA

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM EAGLEBURGER

1. IT STILL APPEARS THAT CARTER WILL WIN THE PSYCHOLOGICALLY
IMPORTANT PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE SIDE OF THE PENNSYLVANIA
PRIMARY. BOTH HIS MARGIN OF VICTORY IN THIS BEAUTY CONTEST
AND THE OUTCOME OF THE INDIVIDUAL DELEGATE RACES WILL
DEPEND PRIMARILY UPON THE SIZE OF VOTER TURNOUT; BUT IT IS
SAFE TO PREDICT AT THIS POINT THAT CARTER WILL DO WELL FOR
THE FOLLOWING REASONS:

A. ALL THE CANDIDATES ARE STRAPPED FOR CASH (UDALL,
PRACTICALLY DESTITUTE IS RUNNING A NON-CAMPAIGN)--SO CARTER'S
MOMENTUM FROM EARLIER VICTORIES ASSUMES ADDITIONAL IMPORTANCE
AND VALUE. CARTER'S MEDIA BUDGET IS LARGER THAN JACKSON'S

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AND UDALL'S SPENDING COMBINED.

B. CARTER IS RELEASING DETAILED POSITION PAPERS TO DEFUSE THE CHARGE THAT HE IS TOO "FUZZY" ON THE ISSUES. ALSO, THE "ETHNIC PURITY" FLAP IS NOT TURNING OUT TO BE THE ALBATROSS WHICH SOME PREDICTED IT WOULD BE.

C. LABOR SUPPORT FOR JACKSON IS EMBARRASSINGLY LUKEWARM; ITS ORGANIZATIONAL EFFORTS HAVE BEEN LAX AND HAPHAZARD. LABOR'S EFFORTS FOR JACKSON THIS YEAR ARE FAR LESS INTENSE THAN THEY WERE FOR HHH IN 1972 (E.G., NO PHONE BANKS, FEW BROCHURES, ETC.). OUTSIDE OF RIZZO'S TURF IN PHILADELPHIA, CARTER MAY VERY WELL OUT-ORGANIZE THE JACKSON AND UDALL CAMPS TUESDAY.

D. THE WEATHER FORECAST LOOKS REASONABLY GOOD FOR THE DAY OF THE VOTE. THE HIGHER THE TURNOUT, THE GREATER THE CARTER WIN.

2. BARRING AN EXCEPTIONALLY LOW TURNOUT, CARTER SHOULD WIN THE BEAUTY CONTEST BY A COMFORTABLE MARGIN (AT LEAST 5-6)--DEMONSTRATING BOTH THE ALLURE OF A WINNER'S IMAGE AND THE DISORGANIZATION OF THE ABC (ANYBODY BUT CARTER) MOVEMENT IN A LARGELY ISSUELESS CAMPAIGN.

3. WE WILL GIVE YOU AN UPDATE ON TURNOUT AND PROSPECTS A FEW HOURS AFTER THE POLLS OPEN TUESDAY. FOR COVERAGE OF THE RETURNS THEMSELVES, WE WILL IMMEDIATELY RETRANSMIT VIA STATE CHANNELS WIRE SERVICE COPY OF SIGNIFICANCE. SISCO

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